

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a Listing of Claims, wherein claims 29 and 34 have been amended and claims 35-41 have been added:

Listing of Claims:

1-28. Canceled.

29. (Currently amended) A charging apparatus capable of being connected for connecting to a communication apparatus, which is capable of said communication apparatus performing data communication via a communication channel, using said communication channel being used to make the connection, wherein between said charging apparatus and said communication apparatus, said communication channel includes including a communication line for data communication and a power supply line for supplying electric power, and said apparatus comprising: a charging circuit for applying electric power, with which it is supplied through said power supply line, to a connector of a data processing unit driven by a battery installed in said data processing unit, the data processing unit being formed to have said connector in order to input electric power for charging the battery, and said data processing unit being freely attachable and detachable to said connector of said charging apparatus.

30-33. Canceled.

34. (Currently amended) A method of charging a battery using a charging apparatus ~~capable of~~ connected to a communication apparatus, which is capable of performing data communication via a communication channel, and using this said communication channel to make the a connection, wherein:

said communication channel includes a communication line for data communication and a power supply line for supplying electric power,

said method including comprising the steps of:

applying electric power, ~~which is supplied through said power supply line,~~ to a connector of a data processing unit driven by a battery installed in said data processing unit,

forming the data processing unit ~~being formed to have said connector in order to input electric power for charging the battery,~~ and

charging said battery ~~being charged by the electric power applied.~~

35. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the communication channel is a cable in accordance with IEEE 1394.

36. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the power supply line is connected to a monitoring circuit for monitoring the electric power supplied through said power supply line.

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37. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the data processing unit is a digital camera.

38. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the data processing unit is freely attachable and detachable to said connector of the charging apparatus.

39. (New) The charging apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the communication channel is a cable in accordance with IEEE 1394.

40. (New) The charging apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the power supply line is connected to a monitoring circuit for monitoring the electric power supplied through said power supply line.

41. (New) The charging apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the data processing unit is a digital camera.